

## **DEALING WITH THE LOVE OF MONEY** **(1 Timothy 6:6-10)**

### **1. We need to understand the truth (1 Timothy 6:6-8).**

- a. Right out of the gate, Paul told Timothy how to deal with the love of money.
- b. Be godly.
  - i. You might be thinking that I should have said learn contentment.
  - ii. It is true that is part of it and we will notice that.
  - iii. However, we can't be content until we are godly.
- c. Contentment is a part of being godly.
- d. Godliness is used eight times by inspiration in the book of 1 Timothy.
  - i. It has to do with reverence towards God.
  - ii. To possess godliness indicates we are striving to be like God in every way we possibly can.
- e. If we are striving to be like God, we will be content with that which God has given us.
  - i. A danger with money is that we begin to think it is ours and we've made it.
  - ii. The truth is found in James 1:17.
  - iii. God gives us every good thing we have.
  - iv. Any money I may possess has been placed in my possession by the opportunities given me by God.
  - v. I had to go earn it but God gave me the opportunity to earn it as He does with each of us.
- f. The word for contentment means self-sufficiency, a mind satisfied with its lot.
  - i. Someone once said, "Contentment can be defined as realizing what we do have instead of resenting what we don't."
  - ii. When we are godly, realizing all comes from God, we can realize what we do have and not be upset about what we don't have.
- g. A person who is truly rich is a person who is satisfied with what he has.
- h. A Greek philosopher once said, "The secret of contentment is not to add to a man's possessions but to take away from his desires".
- i. It was Paul who said...(Philippians 4:11).
- j. The Hebrews writer said...(Hebrews 13:5).
  - i. Don't seek something that is not yours.
  - ii. Be satisfied with God and what He has provided you.
  - iii. What more could we want than that which God has given us and God Himself?
- k. Contentment brings satisfaction but it is a result of being godly.
- l. How can we achieve contentment?
  - i. Be thankful to God for everything you have from Him.
    - (1) 1 Thessalonians 5:18.
    - (2) This was something the Gentile world failed to do and it led to God giving them up to sin (Romans 1:21).
  - ii. Recognize that it comes from God as we mentioned earlier.
  - iii. Distinguish between our needs and our wants.
  - iv. Spend less than you make - which many Americans fail to do and end up deeply in debt.
- m. Earthly goods are not important because we can take them with us as Paul

told Timothy.

n. Instead, realize that contentment comes simply from having our basic needs met.

i. The word translated clothing in verse 8 also carries the idea of shelter.

ii. So, with food, shelter, and clothing, we should be content and be thankful for anything else with which God may bless us.

iii. Jesus taught...(Matthew 6:19-20).

o. If we can recognize the truth of contentment stemming from godliness, it will be great gain to us and we will realize we really are rich in what is really important.

## **2. We must realize riches can be a trap (1 Timothy 6:9).**

a. The word for "will" carries the idea of desire.

i. These people who desire to be rich are those whose only goal is to have lots of money.

ii. They want it more than anything else.

b. What they've done is fall into a trap, or a snare.

c. The trap into which they've fallen is that of greed and, based on the tense of the word fall, it is one into which they keep falling.

d. They fall into traps that are against God, which is the idea of foolish.

e. They fall into traps that are harmful, which is the idea of hurtful.

f. Eventually, they fall into so many of these traps, that they drown in them and destroy their body and soul.

g. Think of all the sins people commit out of greed.

i. People do anything for money.

ii. They will spend money they do have on gambling to get more money.

iii. Murder, lying, adultery, fornication, all manner of sins for money.

h. The pursuit of money is a trap that Satan uses mightily.

## **3. We must avoid the money tragedy (1 Timothy 6:10).**

a. Paul starts this verse out with another truth: the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.

i. When money is loved more than God, all types of evil flows from it.

ii. We noticed that in the trap of money.

b. Notice that Paul did not say money was evil.

i. We have to have money and God knows that.

ii. Money itself is not evil, only the love of it.

c. The tragedy that occurs is that those who love it, covet after it, fall away from the faith.

i. They kill themselves spiritually.

ii. Some do so by teaching a false gospel for money (1 Timothy 6:3-5).

iii. Others, because of all the traps into which they've fallen, drown in sin and leave the truth.

d. Sadly, as they've done this, torture themselves because they cannot find happiness or contentment and they are dead spiritually.

e. Judas Iscariot is one of the greatest examples of someone who loved money but was tortured in mind and soul because of it.